

October 6, 2025

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE LORDSTOWN VILLAGE COUNCIL
1455 Salt Springs Road, Lordstown, Ohio
October 6, 2025
6:02 p.m. to 7:27 p.m.**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Jaclyn Woodward, Mayor
Mr. William Blank, Clerk
Mr. George Ebling, Treasurer
Ms. Jessica Blank, Councilwoman
Mr. Robert Bond, Councilman
Mr. Lamar Liming, Councilman
Mr. Jamie Moseley, Councilman
Mr. Howard Sheely, Councilman

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS taken before me, DEBORAH LAVELLE, RPR, a court reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of Ohio on this 6th of October, 2025.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Please join me for the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

LORD'S PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR WOODWARD: Roll call please.
CLERK BLANK: Mayor Woodward.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Clerk Blank, present. Treasurer George Eberling.
MR. EBERLING: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Police Chief Brent Milhoan.
CHIEF MILHOAN: Present.
CLERK BLANK: Fire Chief Travis Eastham.
CHIEF EASTHAM: Present.
CLERK BLANK: Planning and Zoning Administrator Kellie Bordner.
MS. BORDNER: Present.
CLERK BLANK: Streets Commissioner Martin Nelder.
MR. NELDER: Present.
CLERK BLANK: Board of Public Affairs.
MR. PETERSON: Present.
CLERK BLANK: Engineer Chris Kogelnik.
MR. KOGELNIK: Present.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Is there a motion for adoption of the agenda?
MR. BOWEN: So moved.
MR. LIMING: Second.

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MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Bowen and a second by Liming. All in favor?
(All respond aye.)

MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed.
(No response.)

MAYOR WOODWARD: The motion is carried. Is there a motion for disposal of the minutes for the regular Council meeting September 15, 2025, and the special Council meeting September 22, 2025?

MR. SHEELY: So moved.

MR. BOND: Second.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Sheely and a second by Bond. All in favor?
(All respond aye.)

MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed.
(No response.)

MAYOR WOODWARD: The motion is carried. Is there a motion for payment of the bills?

MR. MOSELEY: So moved.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Moseley.

MR. BOWEN: Second.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Second by Bowen. Any questions or discussion of the bills?
All in favor?
(All respond aye.)

MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed.
(No response.)

MAYOR WOODWARD: The motion is carried. Mayor's Reports. I do want to report that Prosecutor Fritz has issued his opinion that there was nothing that indicated that anyone from the police department did anything illegal or corrupt, and as a result I have released the Lordstown Police Department to work their off-duty details as they were before the allegations were made. That is my report. Is there a Clerk's Report?

CLERK BLANK: I just -- that I'd like to have Cynthia Speaker put on. Originally, I believe in the letter it was October 6, but we got the background check today so we would like to go with the 14th start date.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. October 14, all right. Solicitor's Report.

ATTY. RIES: No report, Mayor.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Treasurer's Report.

MR. EBLING: No report.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Board of Trustees of Public Affairs Report.

MR. PETERSON: Thank you, Mayor. Our regular meeting is tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. And we just ask for Council support on our new hire.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. Village Engineer's Report.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yes. Thank you, Mayor. Regarding the proposed 24-inch water line, we gave a presentation to the BPA at the special BPA meeting last week. And Ernie, I'll be available if you need me at your Utilities Committee to give an overview of those findings. And tomorrow we'll talk probably further about that. Regarding my report, number 2, the State Route 45, the focus is the shoulders, improving the shoulders. On the last page, Lamar, I include a program overview of the HSIP program. That program might be available to the Village and this -- these shoulder improvements on State Route 45 are eligible, although it's a lower priority for them. So, it's a matter of writing the application well. Also, the HSIP program could help with any lighting along State Route 45 and/or sidewalks. So, you might want to discuss that with your committee and determine whether or not it's something you want. But the program deadlines are written on that sheet as well. So, we've already passed one up because we just weren't ready for it, but there's another one coming. And regarding the State Route 45 water booster station, we're just about ready to advertise the project so

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MAYOR WOODWARD:
CHIEF MILHOAN:

I'll be getting the cover sheet signed for that tomorrow. And I think the Village will be submitting the permit review fee to the state for that. And that's pretty much it. Does anybody have any questions for me? Thank you.

Special Reports, Police Chief Brent Milhoan.

Yes, Mayor. I've submitted my monthly report for September 2025 to all of you. I know you probably don't have your report with you, but I did want to make some comment in reference to overtime. If you look at the overtime report I sent you for the month of September, there was 193.75 hours of overtime for the month, which is higher than we'd like it to be. And that's kind of what I want to explain. If you look at the report, I identify the reason for the overtime which I do in all my reports. But some of the things that were in there that are, I'll say, unavoidable and things that were -- that only come up on occasion, obviously the Apple Cider Festival took place in September. Our officers worked security at the Apple Cider Festival along with traffic control for the fireworks and the parade, so we had some hours dedicated to that. Our firearms qualifications took place in September. Obviously, those are required by the State of Ohio. We have to qualify at least annually. That took place, that was another chunk of the hours. CPT, which stands for Continuing Professional Training, all of those hours that were in September, and really for all of the year, those hours are reimbursable through the Attorney General's office, so we will seek and receive reimbursement for that. There were some court hours in there, which obviously is unavoidable when the officers are subpoenaed to appear in court for one of their cases. If they are not already on the clock, per the contract we do have to pay them overtime to attend their court hearing. So really what I looked at was hours that they were filling-in, filling-in a shift, and that took it down to 74.75 hours. I look for that number to -- I'll say I'm optimistic that that number will continue to go down. We do have one of our full-time officers that is still going through the field training program, so when he is released and is able to work a shift on his own that will help. And we also have -- we're still down one full-time dispatcher. We're actually in the process -- our candidate has gone through the background check and just this week completed the medical requirement, pre-employment medical. So, we anticipate putting that individual on at the next Council meeting, which again will help with overtime. As some of you may be aware, this past Saturday we had our Safety Services Day. The toys were provided through a grant through CSX. We obviously had hoped we had gotten a little bit more participation and attendance, but we were happy that the people that did come out came out. I think they had a good time. I want to publicly thank the Hot Dog Shoppe in Warren. They provided free the hot dogs, the buns and the sauce. And then I want to thank all the people that helped. There was a number of people that helped set up, tear down, just a number of things to do behind the scenes, so I want to thank them for that. The last thing that I have, Mayor, and some of this is gonna be a little bit redundant because you spoke of it during your report, during the Mayor's Report, but I do want to read this into the record. On March 17, 2025, during a Public Comments portion of the Village Council meeting, an individual who was a resident at the time accused the Lordstown Police Department of corruption and even compared us to the mob. Accusations of corruption in the police

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department are a serious matter and should be taken seriously, so the Bureau of Criminal Investigation known as BCI was contacted and requested to conduct a thorough investigation. That investigation was reviewed by Prosecutor A. Joseph Fritz. On October 1, 2025, Prosecutor Fritz wrote a letter to Mayor Woodward and myself summarizing the BCI investigation. I'm not going to read the entire letter, but I do want to read the last three paragraphs of the letter which state, and I quote: "I have completed my due diligence in this matter. I am confident the Bureau of Criminal Investigation performed a professional and comprehensive investigation. After over 15 years of prosecution and over 30 years of criminal law experience I am well aware of all the factors involved with executing a warrant arrest, and there is no indication of any illegal or corrupt activity by the Lordstown Police Department. Further, there is no evidence compensation amounts received by the members of the Lordstown Police Department personnel were excessive, improper, or anyone received illegal money. Therefore, based on the thorough Bureau of Criminal Investigation file and in full review of the evidence, my office of Prosecutor for the Village of Lordstown is not filing charges derived from the false and defamatory allegations surrounding the Lordstown Police Department and its interaction with Ultium Cells", end quote. On September 2, 2025, I received the following e-mail from Mayor Woodward, quote: "There was no evidence of any illegal or corrupt activity by the Lordstown Police Department. With that being said, I am releasing the department from the restrictions that I had previously put in place while the investigation was ongoing. All officers may resume working off-duty details as was done previous to the BCI investigation following the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement with Officer Ron Reed overseeing the scheduling and detail work", end quote. Thank you, Mayor, that's all I have.

- MAYOR WOODWARD: Thank you. Anybody have any questions for him? Fire Chief Travis Eastham.
- CHIEF EASTHAM: No report tonight, Mayor.
- MAYOR WOODWARD: Are there any questions for Travis? Planning and Zoning Administrator Kellie Bordner.
- MS. BORDNER: No report, Mayor.
- MAYOR WOODWARD: Any questions for Kellie? Parks/Grounds/Buildings/Streets Superintendent Martin Nelder.
- MR. NELDER: Yes, Mayor. Today the Road Department had finished up pouring the concrete on Muth Road and Industrial Trace, so hopefully by Wednesday it will be dry enough we can open the road back up. And that will be the last repairs, the last big repairs, on that road. And we started repairing the trucks and plows for winter. And then the last thing I have is we received a big thank you from Mike Shouey from the soccer organization. They had the biggest year for the soccer tournament, and it brought a lot of people to the park and they really said the park looked nice. That was nice to get a compliment. That's all I have.
- MAYOR WOODWARD: Thank you, Martin. Does anybody have any questions for Martin? We'll move on to Correspondence.
- MS. BLANK: I have -- no? I have correspondence to read.
- MAYOR WOODWARD: Do you want to go first?
- MS. BLANK: Do you care, do you want me to go? All right. This is an e-mail from Judd Templin, and he is from SoftBank. Says "Hello members of Lordstown Council and Mayor Woodward. We had heard individually from several of you regarding recent

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news report on Lordstown and AI development. Some recent reporting on the Ohio site was inaccurate and we are working to correct the record. In the interest of transparency and updating on the status of the project, we're sharing answers and clarifications below to questions asked by Councilors Moseley and Blank this morning. Sean Callihan from SoftBank's e-mail address and phone is also below for future contact need. Thank you, Judd Templin." And this was September 25. So the e-mails are as follows. "Good morning, Council members. Thank you for your questions and the opportunity to respond and clarify our plans in Lordstown. Please find our answers below and we look forward to the continued partnership to make this project successful, Very Respectfully, Sean." The e-mail I'm gonna read is my e-mail with his questions answered in it, so this is from September 25. "Good morning, we hope this message finds you well. We are reaching out on behalf of the council following the news release published yesterday regarding the Foxconn development project. Several residents have reached out with concerns, particularly regarding the mention of a data center, which has led to confusion and concern within the community. As council members, we have attended the planning meetings and were under the understanding that the project involved the manufacturing of parts and components for data centers, with the potential inclusion of a small demonstration or showroom setup, not a fully operational data center. In light of the recent article, both we and our residents would appreciate clarification on the following: Is there a full-scale data center planned for this site?" "No, some reporting on the Ohio site was inaccurate and we are working to correct the record. The advanced data center design in Ohio is a proof-of-concept. It is being built to show what the next generation of data centers could look like. It is a very small percentage of the overall IT load announced and a small footprint of the overall factory." "Has there been any change to the scope or nature of the development since the last planning meetings?" "No, there has been no change in scope. The proof-of-concept will be launched on existing land. It relies on using existing infrastructure (power and space) and uses no water as it is a 'closed loop' solution. The key is using the existing Lordstown manufacturing capabilities to feed the modules to data center developments outside Ohio." Can you confirm what exactly will be housed or operated on-site?" "A proof-of-concept data center with a very small IT load." Is there the potential for plans in the future that would include a large-scale data center on property currently owned by Foxconn (or alternatively, Crescent Dune, LLC/SoftBank, etc)?" No, we are not building a large-scale data center at the Lordstown facility." "We want to ensure that accurate information is being communicated to the public and that any misconceptions are promptly addressed. We appreciate your time and look forward to your clarification so we can provide residents with accurate and transparent updates. Thank you, Councilwoman Jessica Bank, Councilman Jamie Moseley." Thank you.

MS. BORDNER:

So, I have four. The first is an e-mail from September 25, 2025. "Dear Kellie, I hope this message finds you well. My name is Kerry Gndt and I am an Ohioan. Cleveland has been home my whole life, and I am deeply proud of our city and its suburbs; I am particularly proud of our Metroparks and passion for improving our local ecosystem and environment. As you know, Cleveland boasts its 18 beautiful Metroparks

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reservations, spanning across the City of Cleveland and its environs. Each is unique with its own distinctive feel, and host of flora and fauna. Lake Erie itself is incredibly special and has played a significant role in Cleveland's development and Clevelanders' lives. Despite our past neglect of it, attempts to improve its conditions have mostly succeeded and Lake Erie is home to 114 species of fish that can not only feed birds and anglers, but also us! I was deeply concerned, then, when I saw that SoftBank had acquired Foxconn's EV Plant in Lordstown, just over 50 miles from Cleveland proper, in order to build and operate a Stargate AI server. Studies have reported that the data centers that implement AI server cooling use up to 9 liters of water per kilowatt hour, which merely evaporates; meaning it is not recycled for future use. For example, generating a 100-word email in ChatGPT consumes the equivalent of one bottle of water. There is already a decrease in global freshwater accessibility. A NYT report from July of this year reported that families experienced a shocking, life altering lack of water - meaning, no use of taps, dishwashers, washing machines, or toilets - in Newton County, Georgia after a data center had been built in the area by Meta. Further, despite claims that this will create jobs, evidence has proven that this is short-lived and that long-term careers are not being created. The people of Lordstown deserve better. Is this what we want for Ohioans? I could touch on its negative intellectual impact, impairing our state's students, and we are already low in the rankings for education, around #30th in the country. But I've taken up enough of your time. Please critically address this project for the good of our communities and for the future. Thank you. Best wishes, Kerry Gandt." I received another e-mail today, October 6, 2025, from John and Christine Sofia which reads as follows: "I've resided on Tod Ave in Lordstown for almost 30 years now, I would like it to be known for the record my husband and I are vehemently oppose having data centers coming here on "any" properties now or in the future, it may be detrimental to our environment and housing prices. It may be too late to stop Foxconn but we can hopefully ban this from coming here at tonight's council meeting. I request this letter to be read at tonight's council meeting." I received a letter today, October 6, 2025, from Cindy and Donnie Burns, 3565 Goldner Lane, Warren, Ohio 44481 which reads as follows: "Dear Mayor and Council Members: We have been residents of Lordstown now for 11 years. When we moved here it was a quiet and peaceful community, before the power plants, Ultium Cell, and TJX. We lived on a quiet dead end street that has been bombarded with trucks and heavy equipment on a daily basis. As concerned citizens of Lordstown, we are not in favor of Data Centers coming to Lordstown. We feel that there are no real benefits to the community residents. Just as the power plants have had no real benefit to the community residents other than being unsightly and noisy. As you know, Data Centers use enormous amounts of energy and water consumption, not mentioning the noise from the generators and the impact on the environment. The Foxconn plan may be a done deal, but there are rumors that there may be plans for another one. If there are any additional plans for a Data Center, we ask that council considers the residents of Lordstown and the aesthetics of our community and denies them. Respectfully, Donnie and Cindy Burns." One last letter, dated October 5, 2025, from Edna Gillett, 3576 Goldner Lane, Warren Ohio 44481. "Dear Madam

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Mayor and Council Members: My name is Edna Gillett and I have lived at 3576 Goldner Lane for over 40 years. I am writing as a concerned resident of the Village of Lordstown. I am worried about the data center that has been put in the former General Motors Plant. Supposedly it's just going to be a showroom or a smaller data center, "for now." I have looked into the pros and cons of having a data center in your community and it seems there are more cons. There are problems with water, extreme increases in electric bills, noise pollution and possible health issues to people and animals. The power plants alone have changed my quiet street. There is a continuous noise, it sounds like a constant train rolling down tracks, the lights are bright and the traffic up and down the Goldner Lane is all day. I am highly against one data center, please do not allow any to come to our village. We already have so many industrial businesses and projects in the community, with many right in my back yard. It seems our leadership over the last 10 years or more have been happy to turn our village into an industrial site rather than a residential village. Sincerely, Edna Gillett."

MAYOR WOODWARD:

Did you have any, Bill?

CLERK BLANK:

No, I don't.

MAYOR WOODWARD:

Okay. We'll move on to Public Remarks. Go ahead.

MR. FISCHER:

Philip Fischer, 1237 Hallock Young. A couple things I'd like to address. I have been looking at the data centers all over the U.S. There's 167 of them already in Ohio. There's a lot of pros and cons that go along with it, more bad than I've seen good. The amount of jobs that it sustains after it's in place is not very many, it's like the electric plant. Since I moved here four years ago a lot of people have told me the power plant did this, the power plant did that, they're doing this, they're doing that and they are getting away with it. What I would like to propose is that a committee be put together of five to six Village personnel, at least two Council members, somebody from the police station, somebody from the fire station, to go around and visit the data centers in Ohio. There's 167 of them. Go around and visit them, see what happens, knock on some doors, say what seems to be the problem, what do you see wrong with this data center in your backyard. I've heard they are noisy, they're dirty, they're loud. They fire up the diesel generators I think once a week just to test them to make sure that they still run. The amount of water that a data center pulls is ridiculous. The water is no longer useable after it's done because they take everything out of it. Where are you going to put that water, where is that water gonna go. The water treatment plants do not want that water because they can't treat it because of all the chemicals that are in it. The water and the electricity for the members of this Village is going to go up, the cost of it, because they have to recoup it somehow. Now you can't tell me that a business is gonna come into this Village and say they are not going to ask for anything in return, just let us put our business there. They are gonna want abatements on taxes. Where does that money go? The schools don't need it, the parks don't need it, who's gonna get that money? When they violate their agreements of what they're going to do, where is the fine money gonna go? Is it gonna come to the Village and go into the general fund? That does nothing for the people of this Village. Put it in an account, at the end of the year find out how many people in the Village live here, cut them all a check for 20 bucks or 100 bucks or whatever. But put this committee

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together to go visit at least two data centers, two or three data centers, find out what you're gonna need. Because I'm sure the fire department doesn't have all the equipment they need to put out the electrical fires. What is the police department's role gonna be in all this? What happens when somebody comes down on them? Do they have the manpower and the equipment to stop something that happens? And another thing I'd like to say, anybody on this Council that has anything to do with SoftBank, Foxconn, any of that needs to step aside because if you've got something with SoftBank you shouldn't be up here voting. Anybody. If you can profit from this data center coming into this Village, step off this Council. You should have no business at all being up here voting because everybody knows whose pocket you're in when that comes up, and to me that's a little ridiculous. Am I for data centers? If they want to put them in they're gonna put them in, you're not gonna stop it. But if we put together a committee and bring up a set of rules, this is what you have to do, this is what we want you to meet, if they don't meet it they pay a hefty fine. And none of this well, we'll fix it down the road. No, we want this done before this happens. I want to see plans for these data centers, exactly what they're going to need in order to run. So that's all I'd like to say.

MAYOR WOODWARD:
MR. McGRAIL:

Thank you. Is there anybody else?
Mark McGrail, 3656 Goldner Lane, Lordstown, Ohio. I'll just say it straight out, I am not for data centers, okay; but I am for this ban. And I don't see this ban as necessarily being anti-data center or anti-business. I just don't believe that because the zoning code of the Village is not -- at this point is not capable of dealing with this issue especially on the size that this is gonna be. If you think about the one that supposedly is supposed to be on the other side of Bailey, that's over 350 acres that could be involved in that data center over there. Can you imagine -- because it's gonna take up Industrial Trace, it's gonna cross Lyntz possibly. I mean, this is all possible. And you're talking about moving utilities, moving -- and maybe even moving people. So, the ban, or pause as I'd rather see it, you know, is more of an opportunity for the Village to get its act together. And I like what he had to say about studying it, and I like the idea -- I think that the Village should do more research on these things. And I think that residents should be involved in that process. One of the problems -- or not one, but the problem with these things is they take up a lot of resources with little return. There's few jobs. And generally speaking, from the ones that I've looked at around the State of Ohio they all have tax abatements, some of them 100 percent. And we've been down that road before. I'm tired of that. No more tax abatements. Now one thing that's near and dear, to put it that way, is noise pollution. The noise pollution from these things is supposed to be absolutely intolerable. And as you heard in the letters from the people that live on my street, we already live with this, we can tell you from firsthand experience what it's like to live next to an industrial site. And you already know from people around the state this is coming here. And it's not -- like I talked to one resident, well I was told it was just a little hum. No, it is not; and whoever told that woman that lied to them. I lost my place, I'm sorry. Another concern, there was a fire at one of these places, I think it was in Jerome, Ohio. It took every fire company in the county 30 hours to put it out. Are we ready to handle that? As good as our fire department is,

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absolutely not. You know, if you put this ban in place, first of all any piece of legislation you guys pass you can amend. So down the road after you've done your research and your due diligence, if it looks like you can make things work then amend the legislation. This just gives you time to rethink the zoning laws that you need. And personally, I wouldn't put much thought into these to begin with. What you should be spending your time on is finding businesses that attract great, high-paying jobs and pay their taxes, not businesses that have very few employees and pay no taxes. Thank you.

MAYOR WOODWARD:

Thank you. Go ahead.

MS. CZOKA:

Hello. Laurie Czoka, 1211 Hallock Young Road. I have several issues that I'd like to address tonight. First of all, congratulations to our fine police department. It came out exactly the way we expected, so thank you for that. Mayor, thank you for letting them return as usual to regular duty -- to their side jobs. I am speaking in favor of the ban because we have not had time to study the ramifications as has been said earlier. There are a lot of issues with the data centers. We need regulations and considerations regarding our infrastructure. Who's gonna pay for widening of the roads, who's gonna pay for a new water tower and water lines going to any data center? What about -- what should the height of noise barriers be? We don't have the answers to these questions. There are too many unknowns to jump right in and approve a data center. So, I am in approving the ban until we can further research and investigate what the outcome and what the effect on our residents would be. These factors were not taken into consideration during the power plant. You have heard repeatedly what our issues are with the power plants, these were not addressed. We have learned -- hopefully we have learned from that. Be more thoughtful in what we approve coming into our Village. I would suggest that a committee is formed as Mark and Phil have suggested. I think forming a committee takes all of Council and the Mayor and all of the Village off the hot seat and puts it out there for all the residents and for everyone to be in agreement on. And then no one -- no fingers will be pointed. There will be no one to blame, everyone has researched it, everyone's in agreement. That's what I think needs to happen, I agree with that. I believe it is Council's duty to work in the best interest of the residents, not in the interest of the government-funded, government-backed projects that they want to bring into this community. That is not your duty to take care of the businesses. Your duty up here is to represent us, and I hope that you will do that. And I agree with Phil that if anyone -- and there are a lot of rumors going around about these data centers, and I'm sure you're all aware of it. There are also a lot of conversations happening among the Village. And I want to say that I believe we have members on this Board, including the Mayor herself, that need to recuse themselves from any discussions that are going on about data centers. If you have a personal interest and you stand to gain or your family members stand to gain from this, you need to excuse yourself from any and all discussions. Thank you for consideration.

MAYOR WOODWARD:

Okay. Thank you. Next.

MR. CROUSE:

I'm Dan Crouse. I'm a Warren resident, but for the last 15 years I've worked in Lordstown here. I brought -- I've been a part of the group that's brought nearly \$3 billion in development to

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Lordstown. These entities have given millions of dollars in tax payments, just cash outright payments, they've torn your school down, built your sporting complex out there. I dare say that Lordstown schools might not look like what they do if it wasn't for these entities that we brought to this county -- or this Village. Recently I sat in a meeting with another group that was coming here, not a data center group at all, had to do with national defense. And they did not feel welcome. Good paying, high-paying jobs. And I don't believe they're gonna come back here. Now I know that people on the Council have had discussions with companies wanting to bring data centers here. What you're telling them is that you're not interested in the money that fuels the police department, the fire department, the street department, that money came from those entities which I was a part of to bring here. I have no real axe to grind in this right now other than, you know, I know that they're here, I know that they're coming. There had been no real open meetings like this other than Facebook rants about what's going on, and I agree with the concept of learning something. But you hold the ban in your hands now because you can prevent the construction of this building. They can't -- they can't turn a shovel of dirt without approval and site committee and site review, the engineer looks at it, the zoning looks at it, they can't turn a shovel of dirt, they can't get an occupancy permit, they can't take a kilowatt of power now. You hold that power now. You don't need legislation. I watched legislation 18 months ago to put a moratorium on truck terminals, we're gonna study it. Eighteen months later I haven't seen a study, I haven't seen a meeting, I haven't seen anything. So, if you pass something today and count on it down the road to be reviewed, I doubt it. I very much doubt it. How many of you guys have a smart phone? Just think about it. Every time you ask Siri or you ask ChatGPT or you say hey Google what about this, you're asking that data center somewhat. So, you're using them now, promoting them now, just by your own actions. The next time -- if we just pass this ban without giving it some thorough discussion and thought and work ahead of it and not worry about it -- right now you have the ban in the control of the zoning department. It's there. You have essentially told business, first of all, we don't like trucking terminals, we've already dealt with that. Now we're telling AI centers we don't like that. And this has all been done in many cases without a whole lot of input from you folks, just Facebook rants. Remember that the State of Ohio, Trumbull County, and the federal government is behind this stuff. They like this AI stuff for better or for worse right now, but they like it. So if we tell them no, can't come here, the next time we reach out -- you reach out for grants for bullet-proof vests, fire trucks, new police cars or to pave Route 45, the State is gonna look at it and say you didn't even give AI a chance, you didn't have these meetings, you didn't learn --

MR. FISCHER: Well, that's why I want to put a committee together before that happens. You can put the moratorium in it. You can --

MAYOR WOODWARD: Wait, wait, wait, you can't talk out of to turn. Sorry. If you want to add, you can come back up if you'd like.

MR. FISCHER: As far as the moratorium goes --

CLERK BLANK: State your name again please.

MR. FISCHER: Philip Fischer, 1237 Hallock Young. As far as the moratorium goes, we can put it on tonight, you can take it off next month. But we need some time to study it. I have -- the stuff that I've

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looked up online so far in the last month, a lot of it's -- a couple bought six acres of property. They eminent domain'd part of their property to put a tower in for electric lines for a data center. The diesel generators are tested once a month -- or once a week so that they don't lose power. They are extremely noisy. They're bad for the environment. They use a lot of fossil fuels. This stuff needs to be looked at. I'm sure he would like to have one of those data centers in his backyard, and he wouldn't complain at all about it. I mean, put the data center in your backyard not mine. Give us a chance to look at the data centers, go visit some of them, talk to people around the data center, what seems to be the problem. I've heard complaint after complaint after complaint about the power plants. I don't want to see that with a data center. Give it some time to look at it. What are you gonna do with all the wastewater, the electricity they're gonna use. It's going to produce a lot of jobs in the beginning for the building of the buildings to put them all in. You're gonna get a lot of people in here just like the power plant. How many people work at the power plant now? How many people work the power plant that is in operation? Last I heard it was 27 people for a 24-hour day, 7 day a week operation. What kind of tax money do you get off of that? Not enough to fill up a fire truck, maybe a couple of squad cars. But I think the moratorium should be put on. I think that this should be looked at by a group to see what is the aftereffects of this. Can we stop them from coming in? No, the State of Ohio is gonna do what they want to do. If they want to put a data center in my front yard, they are going to do it and they are gonna say tough, move. But give us a chance to look this stuff over and see what kind of benefit it's gonna have for us. And not just a benefit for the data centers because there's a lot of them. They want Ohio because our catastrophic weather, tornados, hurricanes, we don't have that. In the wintertime our average temperature's 22 degrees, in the summertime it's between 85 and 90. It doesn't take as much to cool, it doesn't take as much to heat it. But where are you gonna put all the water that that data center uses? Are you gonna dump it in the Mahoning River? Mud Creek? Okay. Then where is it gonna end up? Mahoning River, okay. How much power is it gonna use. Can this Village or can our companies power a data center? I've already heard that the water towers are not completely full and they're gonna produce five million gallons a day for a data center? Ain't gonna happen. Miss Woodward's not gonna be able to wash her hair, she ain't gonna have no water at her house. I mean, this stuff has to be looked at before you allow these companies to come in. And if you put a moratorium on it's going to stop them from coming through the door, they're still gonna come back.

MAYOR WOODWARD: There's a five minute limit, so if you want to just finish up real quick.

MR. FISCHER: Just give us a chance to look into them before we do it.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Thank you. Anybody else? Go ahead.

MR. PERCICH: Rick Percich, 1936 Salt Springs Road. I just have a question. Why are we responsible for all the jobs in Mahoning Valley? What have they done for us? You, Dan, you're here for your wallet. You're saying what our school would have looked like. It looked a lot better if we would have got that money instead of abatements. We got a fraction of the money that we were supposed to get. You're here for your wallet, you know. It's all plain and simple. Our water bill's gonna go up, our electric's

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gonna go up, property tax will probably drop. For what? What's the Mahoning Valley done for us? Anybody help me, because I can't think of nothing.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Thank you. Next person. Go ahead.

MR. HILL: Arno Hill.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Quiet please.

MR. HILL: Arno Hill, 2952 Pond Lane. You know, I can agree with setting up a committee. I do know that a lot of things have been done. There's still a lot of stuff that has been left over from when I was mayor. You know, do we still have an easement negotiated for the water line off of 45 going over the turnpike? I don't think so, that easement went bad. If a company comes in, I agree, do a study. But I do know everybody says our water rates are gonna go up. I have had people call me because the Village has been unresponsive about several projects coming in, one of them being we paid for a second water line, 24-inch water line, which has been on the boards for how long, three, four, five years, to come from Meander, run parallel to the one that's in there, have a cross-over every half mile to a mile so in case the line breaks you can shut off that section, fix it, and we can get double the water out of Meander. But you know, they want to know are they gonna have a chance to get in. And I'm not gonna speak for or against any data center because I haven't done the research. I know, Bob, you said on Facebook you're gonna do some research. Have you found anything out other than what has been posted on Facebook?

MR. BOND: Well, there's numerous articles that have been published. Some of them I put on Facebook. I think everybody needs to read them, do some of this research, because it's a responsibility of the residents as well as Council to take care of our community. We only have one community, Arno.

MR. HILL: Oh, and I agree.

MR. BOND: I know you do.

MR. HILL: I've taken a beating over even some of the projects that have come in. And when somebody says well, what did we get out of it. Jackie, the power plant saved the schools. The school's gotten over \$15 million. And Mr. Percich said well, you're gonna have lower property tax. We have the lowest taxes in the county, and that is because of the businesses which have come here. And we have the lowest income tax. I think Newton Falls may be 1 percent, but we have low income tax. We provide a lot of services, and I'm not -- I can't see without having a study done. You don't put the study in -- because I was here when they were talking about the trucking terminals and they said we're gonna take a look at the trucking terminals. And as Dan brought up that was 18, 24 months ago and nothing has been done. So, you know, if you're gonna say well, we'll look at it down the road start setting up meetings now. But I can't see you passing this because if you had -- what committee is this coming out of? I didn't get a --

MS. BLANK: My committee, Planning and Zoning. We met on September 22, and there was so many residents here we had it in Council caucus. So, people did come and share their thoughts.

MR. HILL: Okay. Well, I don't know what the emergency is. Have you been approached by a data center? I know there are some looking.

MS. BLANK: I have not personally been approached. But it's listed as emergency, like every ordinance, in case we need to. But as I said in caucus, I do want it to go three readings.

MR. HILL: Okay. I will say, you know, I'm not all for business. A lot of

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businesses came in which I did turn away when they first came and approached me because they came and said hey, we like different businesses; and I wasn't for that because I knew they wouldn't be a good fit. You know, as far as how much noise data centers make I don't know. I've been told that sometimes the data centers will also use their own power system. You know, we have a lot of natural gas here. Now you gotta pass an ordinance saying you can't have any power plants. But you can probably get a free water line which everybody has been screaming forever, and that's gone nowhere of record for the last year-and-a-half. So be careful what you wish for and take a good long look at this, and I'm glad to see us going three readings.

MAYOR WOODWARD:
MR. McGIFFIN:

Thank you. Next person.
Mayor Woodward, Council President, members of Council. Mike McGiffin, Lake to River Economic Development. I'm a resident of Poland, Ohio, not Lordstown. However, as stakeholder in the greater Mahoning Valley, I would like to commend your leadership. Mayor, we held not too long ago an information session on data centers with Jobs Ohio. We brought top of the state IT sector lead in to share information; and residents, I'd like to report that Lordstown was there in strong nature. I believe you had four representatives from the Village there to learn about data centers, so I commend your leadership there. The Village has long been the heartbeat of economic opportunity for this part of the State of Ohio. And I believe that you all shoulder that responsibility today equally as much as you have for decades and so thank you for that. As Mayor Hill stated, you do not have a data center in front of you today, you have a manufacturing facility. As your testimony from Judd and those emails and that correspondence noted, that is accurate. You are not faced with a decision today to ban a data center. I do appreciate your commitment to going a full three readings for this. And I commend that because like this gentleman here explained, who I believe has a pretty firm grip on economic development and knows what industrial growth is about, due diligence is necessary. Right? But what I will say is that putting a blanket ban on any industry and having that be recognized by our media today and picked up by national media will not do this region any favors for any new business attraction that we're looking to bring in, not only just to Lordstown but to the four counties that we represent. So, I would encourage you to look at every possible opportunity on a case-by-case basis. I would encourage you to use your economic development apparatus, and you certainly are already doing that Mayor, and allow us to help you do the due diligence necessary. So, if there are any committees that are formed we would love to be a part of it, and we would love to continue to work in partnership to help build up this part of Ohio. Thank you.

MAYOR WOODWARD:
MS. GENSBURG:
MAYOR WOODWARD:
MS. GENSBURG:

Thank you. Anybody else? Go ahead.
Judy Gensburg. I'm at 1206 Ina Drive here in Lordstown.
The public needs to be able to hear that.
Oh, I'm sorry. Judy Gensburg, 1206 Ina Drive, Lordstown.
Well, fortunately I'm not here to talk about the data center, okay. I'm here tonight to bring closure to the dispute at the end of Ina Drive, so it's gonna go be a little different thing here. So, this is gonna be a very powerful two-minute message, okay.
My father, Reverend Frank Giovannone, was a minister of the Christian faith that we believe in. And if he were here today we

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would not be here tonight. He taught us kiddos to be good Christian, law-abiding citizens. After much counseling with different authorities, we have decided and agreed to not pursue further litigation about this Ina Drive dispute. The conclusion is that it is not worth both us and the Lordstown Village to put out an additional 10 to 20 thousand dollars each just to recover less than the \$5,000, the small amount we were asking for settlement. Council, hopefully you all are thankful for this conclusion. With that being said, you will not hear from me again about this matter. However, it will not be the last time you will hear about this matter. The good book teaches us the judgment day is coming for all of us, and we will all be questioned about all the deeds we did here on earth. Whether good deeds or bad deeds, we will have to answer for them to determine where our eternal resting place will be. As a Christian woman of faith, my job now is to forgive all of you for the wrongdoing, for the bad deed you did towards the Giovannone family. With that being said, you still have an opportunity to turn this bad deed into a good deed as you have all received the proven paperwork I have provided you earlier. Let your conscience be your guide. Thank you very much. The woman from the Giovannone family. Any questions?

MAYOR WOODWARD:

No.

MS. GENSBURG:

Hopefully you're thankful.

MAYOR WOODWARD:

Thank you. Anybody else? Okay, we'll move on. Council Remarks.

MR. BOND:

Yes, I've got a remark here. It's not something I enjoyed. A lot of what Mr. McGrail said I do agree with. This is about a Facebook message where he talked about it, let me read it to you. "An important issue will be discussed at the Council meeting Monday night at 6:00 p.m. The issue is a ban on data centers in the Village. Three members of Council who are seeking re-election have refused to state publicly where they stand on this issue. I support the ban. This will give the Village time to study the issue." There was a response made by another resident, "I agree this needs to be done" and so on and so forth. And Mr. McGrail commented again, "Sadly there is money involved going to public officials." I don't know who these public officials are. I'd like you to tell us, Mr. McGrail. It puts a black mark on everybody up here. I don't think that's your intent. But if there is money going to public officials that would be, I presume, illegal; and as such, if you have knowledge of this you should report it. You don't want to be accused of complicity. Now can you tell us who these people are or is this -- you know, what is going on here? And I take no pleasure in this, having to ask you this. But that just puts a mark on everybody sitting up here. I don't know what the rest of you on Council think about this.

MR. SHEELY:

Well, I'm in nobody's pocket.

MR. BOND:

Well, I'm not either. But you make a statement like that, either you have knowledge of this or you're trying to manipulate what people think, something, what is going on. And again, I take no pleasure in asking you this. But when this is put out to the public, I think we have to ask because if we've got a rotten apple up here, we need to know.

MR. McGRAIL:

In due time.

MR. BOND:

What?

MR. McGRAIL:

In due time.

MR. BOND:

Well, in due time. When is due time?

MR. McGRAIL:

I don't have to answer that.

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MR. BOND: I know you don't have to answer that. But I am asking that now because I'm saying if this is true and you're complicit and not letting people know about it, it could create problems for you yourself. This is not something that, like I said, that I enjoy asking. Mark, I've known you for a long time. But I read that and you don't name a name and you just accuse a public official of taking money, that's wrong. I know you shrug your shoulders, apparently you don't care. And I agree with many of the things you said tonight. But that is not the way to approach it. It just looks like an effort to manipulate people. Thank you for your time.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. Are there any other Council remarks?

MS. BLANK: Yes. I have two remarks about two different things -- well, I guess three. Safety Day was really nice. I was there; it was really hot. I do wish there was more attendance, hopefully next year like changing the date. But everyone who went there said they loved it and I had good feedback. My first comment is about the police investigation. I feel the entire situation was unfortunate and at times embarrassing for our Village. As a member of Council, I believe we should be supporting all our employees and department heads, especially a department as vital as our police, given the challenges they face in today's world. We should stand behind them and make it clear that we do not believe there is corruption within our departments. I also believe that when issues arise, it's important that we listen to both sides of the situation. We can't make fair assessments if we only hear from one side, particularly when that side may be motivated by personal grievances. Additionally, unless a matter directly involves a situation in which I would have a clear conflict of interest, and there is no evidence that was the case here, I should have been included in the discussions. Excluding me unfairly sends the message that someone who could create a conflict for me was involved, which not only misrepresents the situation but also damages reputations. Now that the police department and its officers have been fully cleared of any wrongdoing, it is important that we make it clear, both as a Council and as a community, that we do not believe there is corruption within our departments. Our focus should be on moving forward, restoring confidence and supporting those who serve this Village with professionalism and dedication. Moving forward, I hope we as a Council will work collaboratively to support our departments, ensure transparency, and uphold the trust our residents have placed in us. My next comment is I was -- just happened to be in the Planning and Zoning office at the end of the day, and a member from the VHGH property came in and gave a permit for a data center that was not -- it was incomplete and kind of threw it through the door. So, I just wanted to give that to our Solicitor.

ATTY. RIES: Okay. I'll take care of it.

MS. BLANK: Thank you. That's all.

MAYOR WOODWARD: That's all. Are there any other Council -- Bill.

CLERK BLANK: Mayor, I would like to say one thing about that if I'm allowed. You know, I'm getting sick and tired of people coming in here that don't live in Lordstown and you turn that business down, you're not going to get anything. You're not going to ruin this town to stick a business here so you can sell some property. We're tired of that. This is our town. And Mr. Percich, you're right on. What you said, you're right on. Dan, every time something comes you come up here and give your speech. You benefit from the property you sell, you made a good living off

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of Lordstown. And you act like we're a bunch of idiots because we won't let some business go up where it don't belong, and I'm tired of hearing that. So, if they don't want to come here, give us grants. So be it.

MR. BOND: Let me say one thing about that. I have had several residents come up to me and say they're tired of Lordstown being the sacrificial lamb.

CLERK BLANK: That's all we are, Bob, and it needs to stop.

MR. BOND: For the whole eastern part of Ohio. We have a community here, a good community, and we want to keep it that way.

MS. BLANK: If there was a committee for the power plants that went around and saw a power plant, correct, and they weren't even operational. So, our committee couldn't even get a good judge of how they worked that day.

MR. BOND: Well, and that's another thing with these data centers. Some are talking about putting in their own power plants. That's what we need is more power plants out here.

CLERK BLANK: And also the ban on the trucking terminals, when you're not paying any income tax and you're beating our roads up and we get nothing in return what good is that. Anybody got an answer for that? I don't see a benefit from it. If you're not gonna pay anything, why do we want you here tying up good property and paying nothing except income tax. That truck driver, some of them here don't pay income tax.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay.

CLERK BLANK: I'm done, I shouldn't be talking.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Well, we need to give you your moments too. There's nowhere in the agenda. Are there any other Council remarks? All right. We'll move on to Committee Reports. Finance, Robert Bond.

MR. BOND: I have no actual report this evening, Madam mayor, just that we have some legislation here I'd like people to consider.

MAYOR WOODWARD: And you want these all considered for emergency passage?

MR. BOND: Well, let's see. Most of them should be, yes I think so.

CLERK BLANK: Yeah, all but 1 should be emergency.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay.

MR. BOND: All but number 1.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. Parks, Buildings, Grounds, General Improvements, Streets and Sidewalks, Lamar Liming.

MR. LIMING: No report.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Public Safety and Police Department, Jamie Moseley.

MR. MOSELEY: I have no report tonight.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Public Safety, Fire and E.M.S., Howard Sheely.

MR. SHEELY: I have no report tonight, Mayor.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Moving right along. Public Utilities, Ernie Bowen.

MR. BOWEN: It's not necessarily a report, but I do need to hold a committee meeting with the rest of Utilities to discuss the 24-inch water line. So, Chris and his team have been putting a lot of work into it and the BPA has been doing theirs, so now it's time to hit the committee so they can move forward.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. Planning and Zoning, Jessica Blank.

MS. BLANK: Just to reiterate, we had our meeting September 22. And then Ordinance #1, I'd like to see it go three readings with the amended legislation.

MAYOR WOODWARD: All right. Legislation.

CLERK BLANK: **From Planning and Zoning Committee for emergency passage. An ordinance to prohibit the establishment and operation of data centers within the corporate limits of the Village of Lordstown and declaring an emergency.**

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. Are there any motions? Hearing none, I declare that this has had its first reading.

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MR. BOND: Discussion?
MAYOR WOODWARD: Do we want to have discussion tonight?
MR. BOND: We often do at first, second, and third readings if anybody has anything you want to discuss about it.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay.
MR. BOND: Well, I guess I'll say then the way it looks to me I support the residents, and that is the way I do this because we are a Village. The residents are our Village. Our Village is not just a bunch of businesses with a few residents interspersed. And the residents are the Village. To me that's the way I've always looked at it. Thank you.
MR. BOWEN: I'd like to add too. And so that we -- I think since we're doing this three readings, which I'm happy about, what I suggest is if there's other residents that you know that couldn't be here or need to be here, encourage them to come to the next Council meeting so they can add their remarks to this. Because you know, you heard earlier that Ohio, Trumbull County, and whoever can come in and take over. The more residents that are armed with the right information, the more power that Lordstown holds. So, I would just encourage you to do that for the next meeting. That's it.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Any other discussion?
MS. BORDNER: Mayor, can I just speak up for one second. I just also wanted to say that if people can't come they can also do exactly what I did tonight, they can send a letter, they can send an e-mail, ask that it be read at Council. And I will make sure that that happens or the Solicitor, whoever.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. Anything else? All right. I'll ask again, are there any motions on this piece? Okay. I declare that this has had its first reading.
CLERK BLANK: **From Finance Committee for emergency passage. An ordinance authorizing the Clerk to make the following transfers within various funds and declaring an emergency.**
MAYOR WOODWARD: Is there a motion to suspend the rules?
MR. LIMING: So moved.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Liming.
MR. SHEELY: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Second by Sheely. Roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Yes.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Six ayes, zero nays. The motion is carried to suspend the rules. Is there a motion to accept?
MR. BOND: So moved.
MAYOR WOODWARD: A motion by Bond.
MR. BOWEN: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Second by Bowen. Any discussion? Roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Yes.

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CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Yes.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Six ayes, zero nays. The motion is carried to adopt Ordinance 52-2025.
CLERK BLANK: **From Finance Committee for emergency passage. An ordinance authorizing the Clerk to make the following fund transfer from the general fund to the capital improvement fund and declaring an emergency.**
MAYOR WOODWARD: Is there a motion to suspend the rules?
MR. MOSELEY: So moved.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Moseley.
MR. BOWEN: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Second by Bowen. Roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Yes.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Six ayes, zero nays. The motion is carried to suspend the rules. Is there a motion to adopt?
MR. LIMING: So moved.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Liming.
MR. SHEELY: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Second by Sheely. Any discussion? Roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR BOWEN: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: Yes.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Six ayes, zero nays. The motion is carried to adopt Ordinance 53-2025.

CLERK BLANK: **From Finance Committee for emergency passage. An ordinance amending and restating Ordinance No. 66-2024 establishing the authorized strength, the hourly wages, and other terms of remuneration for the Clerk's office staff within the Village of Lordstown, effective October 14, 2025, and declaring an emergency.**

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MAYOR WOODWARD: October 14?
CLERK BLANK: I thought we changed that.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Oh, okay. I see what you're doing. Okay. Is there a motion to suspend the rules?
MR. SHEELY: So moved.
MAYOR WOODWARD: All right, motion by Sheely.
MR. BOND: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay, second by Bond. Roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Yes.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Six ayes, zero nays. The motion is carried to suspend the rules. Is there a motion to adopt?
MR. BOND: So moved.
MR. LIMING: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Bond. Second by Liming. Any discussion? Roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Yes.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Six ayes, zero nays. The motion is carried to adopt Ordinance 54-2025. Is there any Old Business? Hearing none -- New Business. Is there a motion to appoint Cynthia Speaker to the Clerk's office staff effective October 14, 2025?
MR. SHEELY: I'll make that motion.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Sheely.
MR. MOSELEY: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Second by Moseley. Any discussion? All in favor?
(All respond aye.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed.
(No response.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: The motion is carried. Is there a motion to hire Jon Heberling as full-time laborer/ machine operator effective at the completion of his pre- employment testing?
MR. BOWEN: So moved.
MR. BOND: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Bowen and a second by Bond. Any discussion? All in favor?
(All respond aye.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed.
(No response.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: The motion is carried. Is there any other New Business tonight?

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MS. CZOKA: Are there any additional public remarks tonight? Go ahead.
Laurie Czoka, 1211 Hallock Young Road. Matt, I have a question for you. That permit that is in your hands now, does that mean we have data centers on the table?

ATTY. RIES: No. I mean, I have to look through the permit first of all. If the permit's not completed, it needs to be -- it hasn't been filed or anything, it needs to be resubmitted back to them so that they can complete the permit. But that's just -- this is just the first step, it didn't mean there are data centers on the table. That is just the first step, applying.

MS. CZOKA: Thank you. Ernie --

MR. BOWEN: Yes.

MS. CZOKA: -- have you done any research at this point on what would happen with the utility usage if/when data centers come to the Village?

MR. BOWEN: I have. It's kind of -- it's all hypothetical because, you know, rates change with or without a data center.

MS. CZOKA: Right.

MR. BOWEN: And you know, and then you got square footage of a data center, so I don't -- if a data center was to put itself in place I don't know the square footage, I wouldn't know their water usage. It seems to be a general theme that utility prices go up. That's about --

MS. CZOKA: So, my question is not particular numbers. It is when that electricity usage increases, when the water usage increases, how will it affect the residents of Lordstown irregardless of what the numbers are?

MR. BOWEN: Well, I just know that some residents, some communities, have had to absorb some of the cost of power generation from the power plants. I mean, that's just a fact.

MS. CZOKA: So, you will stay on top of this for the residents I'm assuming, correct? As best to your knowledge you will keep researching that, keep your eye on that?

MR. BOWEN: It's kind of why I get paid.

MS. CZOKA: There you go. Thank you for doing your job.

MR. BOWEN: You're welcome.

MS. BORDNER: Mayor, can I just say something about the ban legislation?

MAYOR WOODWARD: Yes.

MS. BORDNER: Mr. Ritter is here from Foxconn. And I want to make it clear that they came to site plan review for their expansion and the proof-of-concept building, which is in essence a smaller 600 -- I think 600 foot by 200 foot data center showroom has already been approved through site plan review. And we as the Village, the Planning Commission, this Council, we are working with Foxconn and its partner SoftBank, Crescent Dunes, whoever they want to partner with. That has already been approved. And if you take a look at Section 4, Item C, it allows that an exception so that they are able to operate that showroom, that data center showroom, which they have already been approved for. I just -- nobody said that, and I wanted to make it clear that, you know, we weren't giving them approval under site plan review and then turning around and stabbing them in the back or anything like that. They have an exception for that data center showroom proof of concept building.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Correct. It just brought attention to the fact that there may be larger data centers looming, and that's what that ban is for.

MS. BORDNER: Correct. But I just wanted to be clear that they are okay. It's not --

MAYOR WOODWARD: Yes, yes.

MS. BORDNER: No one is trying to do any flip- flopping.

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MAYOR WOODWARD: Good point. I didn't think to bring that up. This is an extension in there specifically for that.

MR. BOWEN: Kellie, thank you for that. Because if you read everything that's going on on Facebook --

MS. BORDNER: Right.

MR. BOWEN: -- the two separate issues have all become one.

MS. BORDNER: Correct.

MR. BOWEN: And it's very confusing, and it's causing a lot of bad information. So that's a good --

MS. BORDNER: I hope I explained it okay. If anybody has any questions, please feel free to call the Planning and Zoning office so that I can explain that for you. They are absolutely in compliance and they are okay.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. State your name and address.

MS. GENSBURG: My name's Judy Gensburg, 1206 Ina Drive. I have a question, maybe it's for you Kellie, I'm not sure. So, my family owns property on Lyntz Drive and the road -- it is zoned industrial, but the road is not. So how does that work? If you're gonna sell the property, how does that work when you own land but the road is not industrial? So, if somebody can help me out on that question and who I need to talk to and what I need to do, we need to get that settled somehow.

MS. BORDNER: I don't know that we have particular zoning for the public roadways that are located here in the Village of Lordstown. Some of them are no truck routes and some of them are truck routes. The Police Department has a list of ones, and I do have one in my office if someone wanted a list of which roads are no truck routes. I do have those and how that works.

MS. GENSBURG: So, if I was gonna sell my property, who would I not be able to sell it to? Do you see what I'm saying? This doesn't make sense that I would have an industrial plot of land but the road is not industrial for people to come in and do whatever they gotta do. Doesn't make sense. I think it needs changed. Thank you.

MS. BORDNER: See, that's what site plan review is for in front of the Planning Commission.

MS. GENSBURG: Thank you. Thank you, Kellie.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. Mark, go ahead.

MR. McGRAIL: Mark McGrail, 3656 Goldner Lane, Lordstown Ohio. First of all, Bill, thank you for your comments. Rich, are you still here? Yeah. Over the years going back to the, you know, the energy plant discussions, people keep coming into this Village -- we have had a couple here tonight -- we owe it to the region. No, we do not. We owe it to ourselves to do the best job that we possibly can for the residents that live here, not for somebody who lives in Mahoning County, Geauga County, anywhere else. We don't owe you a darn thing. And you guys represent us and I'm sure that -- and you know, I -- I don't think that I need to say that I know every one of you and I know you all represent the residents. This is a simple, very simple, action that's happening here. It's not against the data centers, it's not against businesses. People over here have said we hate businesses. No, we do not. What we need is to attract good job creators that pay high wages, have benefits, and pay their taxes. That's all we're saying here. And perhaps down the road, maybe sooner than we expect, a data center will come here and they will put something on the table for us all to see; and then we can say wow, that's a heck of a good deal for the residents of Lordstown, Ohio. That's all this is about.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Thank you. Anybody else? Let's go with Tom first.

MR. CZOKA: Tom Czoka, 1211 Hallock Young Road. I have a question -- I

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think your name was Mike.

MR. McGIFFIN: Yes, sir.

MR. CZOKA: What -- I'm sure these data centers that are coming in all over the country, they have people out there looking for sites for them. What makes Lordstown attractive to them? Is --

(Court reporter asks speaker to restate his name.)

MR. McGIFFIN: My apologies, ma'am. Mike Giffin, resident of Poland, Ohio. What makes them attracted to Lordstown, Ohio?

MR. CZOKA: Yeah.

MR. McGIFFIN: I don't necessarily know that they're exclusively attracted to Lordstown. They are attracted to brownfields that are converted away from E.P.A. regulation, they're attracted to greenfields that are ready for site development, they're attracted to large scale power, they're attracted to ample water supply, and they are at times attracted to a work force that's ready and capable of building them. Ohio has seen tremendous growth in data centers because of the cost of land being less than other areas of the country. However, that has proven to be beneficial for the landowners as most data centers are coming in and paying significantly over market value for this land. Okay. Does that answer your question, sir?

MR. CZOKA: Yes, thank you. But I have a question then. I mean, right across the river we've got 500 acres of clean level ground on the river with power that -- enough power that used to power a steel mill that's sitting empty next to Kimberly Clark. Why don't they go look instead of here?

MR. McGIFFIN: We at Lake to River are actively working that site. To our knowledge, you do not have -- as Councilman Bowen said, there's two issues that have become one with Foxconn and their partnership with SoftBank and the concern of data centers. We understand the residents' hesitancy across the region with data centers. We also respect the very difficult process that our partners like Dan Crouse and Platz and our enterprise has to face with business attraction. You mentioned Kimberly Clark. Kimberly Clark -- my friends from Warren, Council President John Brown, was here from Warren to participate in this meeting. That lift for that Kimberly Clark project took about three-and-a-half years and took a tremendous partnership of the Council members of three different communities, the economic development apparatus, the residents, and property and business owners who are nearby it affected and various other enterprises like the Chamber, the port authorities, valley partners, et cetera. And so economic development is a big lift, it takes a lot of us to do it together. I think that exercises like this are incredibly important. Got a lot of empathy for what everybody's desires are. I'll tell you this, it's Lake to Rivers' desire to develop each of the communities within our region to the vision you all see and want to have happen.

MR. CZOKA: So, we've got all these entities that you just mentioned working behind the scenes like on data centers --

MR. McGIFFIN: Not necessarily just data centers, sir.

MR. CZOKA: I mean, we got an issue going on here. The residents really don't want it, and we got all these government entities out there pushing for it.

MR. McGIFFIN: Not -- not that I -- I respect your statement, but it's not an accurate statement. Lake to River, the four-county region, it does not actively seek and pursue data centers. We do not. We look for business development that provides strong paying jobs.

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The incentives that come out of the State are all tied to job creation. Ultium Cells is a good example of that and now the largest employer in Trumbull County, certainly the largest employer in the Village of Lordstown; that is what we're looking to attract. We do, however, respond to leads that come into the state, come into our region. Should we have a site that meets their needs, we're gonna see that opportunity through as well.

MR. CZOKA: Okay, thank you.
 MR. McGIFFIN: You're welcome.
 MAYOR WOODWARD: Thank you.
 MR. HILL: Arno Hill again. Bob, you kind of jarred my memory a little bit because I have had Mark -- have you -- Jackie, do you have a Village phone?
 MAYOR WOODWARD: I do.
 MR. HILL: Has anybody ever requested your phone records?
 MAYOR WOODWARD: No.
 MR. HILL: About once every year Mark McGrail requested mine, and I do know he did a lot of research, looked -- chased all the numbers down and everything. And he hasn't been a big fan of mine, and that goes both ways. But I -- if he would have found something he would have been coming after me. And you know, Facebook, you know I've taken a beating; but hey, I'm still standing. And Mark and I don't have a good relationship, and I'm hoping it's loss number five for him. Thank you.
 MAYOR WOODWARD: Thank you. Is there anybody else?
 MR. PERCICH: Rick Percich, 1936 Salt Springs Road. What was you saying about the E.P.A., something where the E.P.A. doesn't want to bother with us or it's easier with the E.P.A.?
 MR. McGIFFIN: No. Mike McGiffin. The gentleman was asking about sites, site development and what is attractive. He said specifically the data centers, but really this applies to all industrial growth. Companies are looking for sites that are ready for the shovel, and that means we classify sites as either greenfields or brownfields. Brownfields means there was already development on it and then the E.P.A. needs to come in and clear that.
 MR. PERCICH: Well, we'll be on that E.P.A., trust me. You know, this isn't your old man's council, this is a new one, okay. We'll be on everything.
 MR. McGIFFIN: Yes, sir.
 MAYOR WOODWARD: Thank you.
 MR. PERCICH: You're welcome.
 MAYOR WOODWARD: Is there anybody else tonight?
 MR. LIMING: Make a motion to adjourn.
 MR. BOWEN: Second.
 MAYOR WOODWARD: There's a motion for adjournment. There is a second by Bowen. All in favor?
 (All respond aye.)
 MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed.
 (No response.)
 MAYOR WOODWARD: Meeting adjourned.

(Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.)

_____, Mayor

_____, Clerk

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C E R T I F I C A T E
STATE OF OHIO)
TRUMBULL COUNTY) SS.

I, Deborah I. Lavelle, a Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that the foregoing meeting before the Lordstown Village Council was written by me in the presence of the Members and transcribed by me using computer-aided transcription according to the stenotype notes taken at the time the said meeting took place.

I do further certify that I am not a relative, counsel or attorney of any Member, or otherwise interested in the event of this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Niles, Ohio on this 13th day of October, 2025.

DEBORAH I. LAVELLE, Notary Public
My Commission expires 4/15/2027